

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 01731 121910Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 PC-01 SCS-03 SY-05 A-01
OPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /091 W
-----130337 121930Z /46

O 121554Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9093
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 379

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 1731

ALSO PASS PEACE CORPS

LONDON FOR ASST SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR CT US
SUBJ: GOLDSMITH DETENTION - US-CAE RELATIONS

1. EMPEROR BOKASSA ASKED TO SEE PEACE CORPS WELLS VOLUNTEERS AUGUST 12 TO DISCUSS DRILLING OF WELLS ON IMPERIAL ESTATE AT BERENGO. PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR WOODBURY - ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR SEYLER ACCOMPANIED THEM. BOKASSA USED THIS OCCASION TO PROVIDE EXTENSIVE COMMENTARY ON US-CAE RELATIONS AND IN PARTICULAR TO GIVE CATEGORIC ASSURANCES THAT PEACE CORPS WAS WELCOME IN CAE. BOKASSA SAID PCVS WERE IN NO DANGER AND THAT PROGRAMS AND HAS FULL SUPPORT. HE NOTED THAT HE HAD SIGNED ORIGINAL PEACE CORPS AGREEMENT. BOKASSA EXPRESSED REGRET AT "HISTOIRE MALHEUREUSE" OF PCV MAHER. BOKASSA
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ALSO REFERRED TO GOOD RELATIONS WITH AMERICAN MISSIONARIES AND WITH UNITED STATES IN GENERAL. ALTHOUGH HE DESCRIBED 1976 COUP D'ETAT ATTEMPT HE DID NOT REITERATE CHARGES OF USG COMPLICITY.

2. BOKASSA ALSO COMMENTED ON GOLDSMITH CASE. HE INDICATED THAT CASE WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE CASE WOULD BE RESOLVED IN A FEW DAYS TIME AND SAID THAT

GOLDSMITH WOULD BE RELEASED WHEN NORMAL PROCEDURES HAD BEEN GONE THROUGH. BOKASSA MENTIONED HE HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM MRS. GOLDSMITH INFORMING HIM THAT GOLDSMITH HAD BEEN BORN IN AUSTRIA. HE DID NOT REPEAT CHARGES THAT GOLDSMITH HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE.

3. I HAVE ALSO BEEN TRYING TO NUDGE THINGS ALONG AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. I HAVE TALKED INFORMALLY WITH VICE PRIME MINISTER MAIDOU AND HEALTH MINISTER PINERD. TO BOTH I HAVE TRIED TO GET ACROSS THE LEGITIMACY OF OUR INTEREST IN GOLDSMITH (HIS EMPLOYMENT AND FAMILY CONNECTIONS WITH THE US) AND THE URGENCY OF HIS RELEASE GIVEN HIS MOTHER'S TERMINAL ILLNESS. ON BASIS OF THIS MORNING'S MEETING WITH BOKASSA, IT APPEARS SOME OF THESE FACTS MAY ALREADY HAVE PERCOLATED UP, THROUGH BOTH MINISTERS HAVE STRESSED THE EXTREME DELICACY AND SENSITIVITY OF THE CASE (A EUPHEMISM FOR BOKASSA'S PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT). THEY HAVE BEEN EQUALLY INSISTENT THAT GOCAE WANTS CONTINUED COOPERATIVE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE US.

4. COMMENT ON ABOVE AND PARIS 23490 WHICH IS NOW COMING IN WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL.
QUAINTON

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: DETENTION, CITIZEN PROTECTION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, JOURNALISTS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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